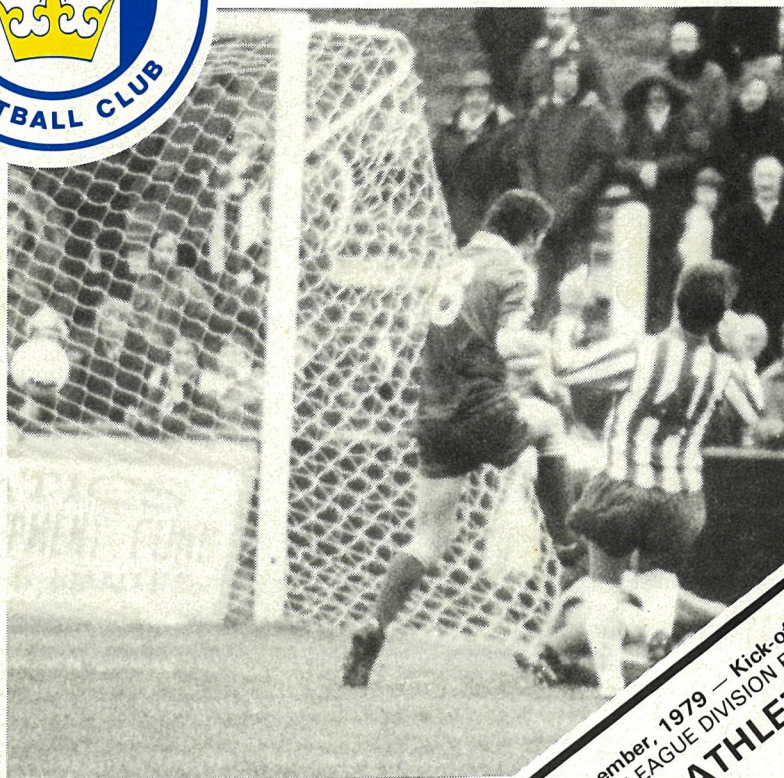


WIGAN ATHLETIC



Official Programme

20p

Saturday, 1st December, 1979 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC
- v -

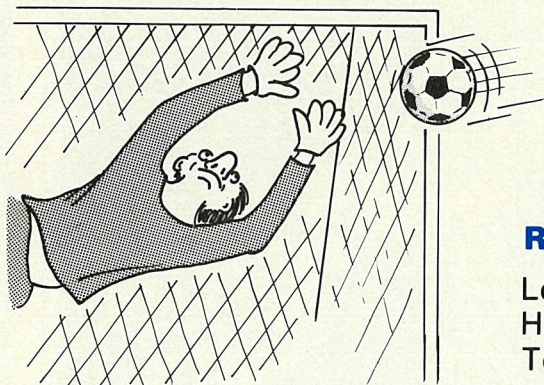
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Club Directory

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VICE-CHAIRMAN:
Mr. A. Muir.

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A. Eckersley, G.D. Gorner,
B. Connolly.

COMPANY SECRETARY:
Mr. D. Welsby.

TEAM MANAGER:
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:
Mr. J.T. Sudworth.

HON. MEDICAL OFFICERS:
Dr. G. Menon, Dr. S.K. Ahuja,
and Dr. J. Coffey.

Match Ball Donors

The Wigan Athletic Football Club wishes to thank all those who have donated match balls. Any individual or organisation wishing to join the scheme is asked to contact the Commercial Manager, Springfield Park, Wigan. (Telephone: Wigan 43067)

Our front page pic shows Tommy Gore slipping the ball into the Scunthorpe United net. (Photo by courtesy of the Evening Post & Chronicle).

Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill



A WARM WELCOME to Clive Walker and his Northampton Town team. Currently in the bottom half of the league they are enjoying some success at home, but they haven't been doing too well on their travels. However, no match is easy and we will have to be at full throttle to gain both points today.

Cup-Tie Fever

Once again you fantastic supporters turned up in your thousands to give us tremendous backing in the match against Blackpool. The players really respond to your vocal encouragement and Wednesday night was no exception. I thought it was a tremendous cup-tie and as I said before the match it would be extremely difficult and a heavy pitch somewhat strength-sapping. However, our lads came through it well, and we now look forward to our match at Northwich, a real throw back to our Premier League days. It will most certainly be no pushover, but I am confident we can get the result we want. One big problem will be that many of you will not be able to see the match, as there will probably be a crowd limit of 10,000 which means only two and a half thousand tickets will come to us. I am positive whoever the lucky supporters are they will more than make up for the lads who can't get tickets.

Enjoy today's match.
I. M. McNeill.

Ian McNeill

WELCOME TO



NORTHAMPTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB: (Left to Right): **Back Row:** John Farrington, Jim McCaffery, Gary Sargent, Dennis Byatt, Raymond Close. **Middle Row:** Clive Walker (Manager), Stephen Ward, George Reilly, Carl Jayes, Andrew Poole, James McNichol, Paul Saunders, Tony Taylor (Trainer) — now left. **Front Row:** Ricky Walker, Glen Perkins, Russell Ashenden, Desmond Waldock, Gary Leonard, Steve Corcoran.



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NORTHAMPTON TOWN

TODAY we welcome Northampton Town to Springfield Park and in writing these comments we realise that once again we have as a visitor a club which has sampled all the joy and despair which makes up football life. Between the years of 1961 and 1965 the County Ground at Northampton witnessed the rise of "The Cobblers" from the Fourth Division to the First Division of the Football League. Yet, in even faster time, between 1966 and 1968, the Northampton club made its way back to the Fourth Division, where, with the exception of one season in the Third Division (1976 - 1977), the club has remained ever since. This epic story of the rise and fall of a club must be without a parallel and it just goes to show the dangers inherent in making progress too quickly through the leagues.

It follows that if success has been enjoyed in League Football, somewhere along the line there must have been a good cup run, and Northampton Town have enjoyed successful excursions into the Fifth Round of both F.A. Cup and the Football League Cup, with, as one might expect from previous comments, the 1960's being the most productive years.

As if to emphasise that all Northampton Town's ups and downs have not been of late, we discover that pre-Second World War, in 1927, the club notched its record win (10 - 0 v Walsall), only to have the balance restored in 1939 when the club suffered a record 0 - 10 defeat at the hands of Bournemouth

Against such a background, it would be a bold man who would attempt to consistently forecast either for or against Northampton Town. Certainly, today's game could go either way as Northampton battle to improve on a disappointing start to the season while our boys seek to further extend the mini-revival which leaves us in with a chance of closing the gap on the Fourth Division's front-runners more quickly than we had once hoped. One exciting player missing from "The Cobblers" ranks today is, of course, the recently transferred George Reilly. Obviously the money raised from Reilly's transfer will assist in the rebuilding of a formidable Northampton Town, but, in the short-term, the striker's scoring talent will be sorely missed.

After two successful, but hard, games against Blackpool in the F.A. Cup we must not delude ourselves that today's game will automatically be easy. Many a side embarking on a cup run has suddenly come unstuck in the league, and, whatever, the heady delights of cup glory, the need to maintain success in our bread and butter league games remains paramount. Last year, Wigan Athletic completed the "double" over Northampton Town, this year may be a whole different ball game.

Welcome then to the Northampton Town Football Club, its directors, management, staff and supporters. We trust you will enjoy your visit to Springfield Park, a good afternoon's football, and, to round off the day, a trouble-free journey home tonight.

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Commercial Chatter

BY THE TIME you read these notes members of the Commercial Department will be heading for the end of a seven-day period, which to say the least has been an extremely testing period. Naturally, we were all delighted with the result at Blackpool, we were positively ecstatic about Wednesday night's victory and are very happy indeed to have another home fixture at which we can stimulate interest, sell a variety of commodities and generally get on with our job. However, the demands imposed by other commitments have almost pushed delight, ecstasy and happiness into the background.

The production of two programmes, the operation of the office throughout the week (and not merely the match days), the general sales' effort required on match days (whether it be programmes, lottery tickets, souvenirs or general odds and ends), delivery of lottery tickets and collection of monies, the introduction and servicing of new kiosks at Ashton-in-Makerfield and Ince (not to mention our "gold mine" on Wigan

Market Square), the recording, cashing-up and banking of monies received are just a few of the tasks with which we have coped. When you add to that formidable list, dozens and dozens of personal calls and telephone calls about match arrangements, tickets, routes to the ground, results, cup draws, and all manner of incidental questions which seem to have been generated by Cup Fever, you will readily appreciate why our staff are looking a little shell-shocked. Yet, for all that, we would not have missed the last seven days for a king's ransom. There is a strange kind of magic conjured up by an F.A. Cup run and we, in the offices, get struck by the bug just as severely as the most ardent fan. The morning after a cup success produces a kind of happy hang-over, with smiles forced from even the most tired face, but a defeat leaves everyone deflated and misery predominates over every event.

Christmas and New Year look like being particularly hectic this year, with three home first team games in

eleven days. A draw a Northwich would mean a replay at Wigan on Tuesday, 18th December, victory in the replay, plus a home draw in the Third Round on Saturday, 5th January, would mean five home games in seventeen days, plus a game at Peterborough on Boxing Day for good measure. As Jimmy Saville might say "How's about that then?"

We are pleased to acknowledge the donation of today's match ball by Allen-Fox Construction Limited, of Holly Street, New Springs, Wigan (Telephone number Wigan 46265). A member of the Allen Group, this company is Wigan's leading design and build expert for all types of industrial and commercial construction. Allen-Fox is the specialist company in industrial development of factory units in the North West. We thank the company most sincerely for the interest which it has shown in our club.

Enjoy today's game.

Jack Sudworth,
Commercial Manager.

Income Tax Consultant, 70 Springfield Road, Wigan, Lancs., WN6 7BB
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Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

BURNLEY Football Club may be firmly entrenched at the foot of the Second Division but, if the performance of their Youth Team against us last week is anything to go by, the future of the club is bright enough.

We had high hopes of a good run in the Lancashire Youth Cup in view of our performances in the F.A. Youth Cup earlier in the season, but it was not to be.

We were soundly beaten, and the manner in which Burnley played suggests that the famous Turf Moor conveyor belt of young talent is still running as steadily as ever.

Obviously, the main thing is to have a successful first team but in the present days of limited finance the only answer for clubs is to find and groom their own talent.

We are attempting to emulate this Youth policy at Springfield Park but at the same time not make the mistake of

neglecting the all-important first team.

Our young players were obviously downhearted at such a heavy defeat, but this sort of thing happens to everybody sooner or later and is just another part of their soccer education.

How a young player reacts to this sort of thing is very important and Dave Crompton, Dave Brooks and myself will be watching them very closely in the next few matches to see which players have the temperament to overcome such an experience, to learn from it, and also build their character a little stronger.

Players have to experience disappointments to appreciate the good times when they come along. There is nothing more disappointing than a 1 - 7 defeat at home, but if some lessons have been learned it will give us a crumb of comfort.

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Player Profile



Photograph by courtesy of The Wigan Reporter



MICKY MOORE (Forward)

MICHAEL MOORE was born in Chorley and was educated at St. Augustine's Secondary School. Not only did he captain his school side, but also Chorley and District boys. A good all-round sportsman, the Adlington based player was also a useful cricketer.

On leaving school he became an apprentice joiner, but did not complete his apprenticeship. On leaving school he joined Blackburn as an amateur, but eventually signed as a professional for Preston North End at the age of seventeen.

After three years Micky moved on to Southport, and, while there, he played in the Southport side which in successive years narrowly missed promotion, won the Fourth Division Championship, and stayed in the Third Division for just one year before being relegated. From Southport he joined Great Harwood under Les Rigby as Manager, before spending a summer in America at Dallas Tornadoes, along with Tommy Gore. On returning from America he joined Altrincham, which club Les Rigby had moved on to manage in the meanwhile.

The high spot of his stay at Altrincham was reaching the F.A. Challenge Trophy Semi-Final, in which Micky was unfortunate enough to miss a vital penalty, but before the new season could begin Ian McNeill swooped to sign Micky in time for him to play against his old club — Altrincham.

Micky immediately endeared himself to the Wigan fans; his hard working style of play and his eye for the half chance proving very popular. Off the field of play his infectious sense of humour made him a manager's ideal dressing room influence. He was to go on to play a major part in Wigan's epic F.A. Cup run which was to culminate in glorious failure at St. Andrew's, Birmingham. It was no surprise, therefore, when Micky eventually left Wigan to join Port Vale, but he never really settled there, and in next to no time at all was back with Wigan Athletic in the Football League.

A family man, Micky holds a special place in the hearts of Wigan supporters, who are always quick to appreciate the player who gives his all every time he steps out onto the park.

Skilful, thoughtful and ever aware of the efforts his colleagues are making to find space, Micky Moore is a valuable member of Ian McNeill's first team pool.

F.A. CHALLENGE CUP SECOND ROUND DRAW

Blackburn Rovers	✓ Stafford Rangers	Hereford United	✓ Aldershot
Bury	✓ York City	Rotherham United	✓ Altrincham
Carlisle United	✓ Sheffield Wednesday	Northwich Victoria	✓ Wigan Athletic
Chesham United	✓ Merthyr Tydfil	Reading	✓ Barking
Colchester United	✓ A.F.C. Bournemouth	Southend United	✓ Harlow Town
Croydon	✓ Millwall	Torquay United	✓ Swindon Town
Darlington	✓ Bradford City	Tranmere Rovers	✓ Rochdale
Doncaster Rovers	✓ Mansfield Town	Walsall	✓ Halifax Town
Wimbledon	✓ Portsmouth	Yeovil Town	✓ Slough Town
Grimsby Town	✓ Sheffield United		

Ties to be played on 15th December, 1979.

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F.A. CUP RE



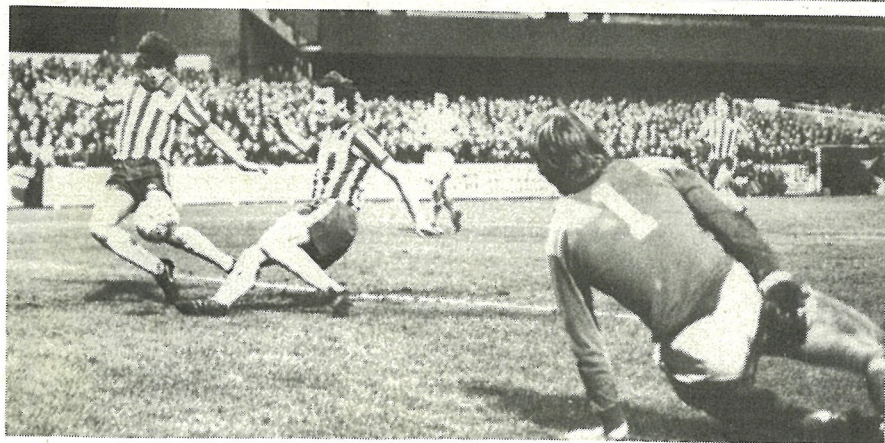
ABOVE:
Tommy Gore sends Blackpool goalkeeper Iain Hesford the wrong way with his perfectly taken penalty-kick.

TOP RIGHT:
Not this time Wigan. Joe Hinnigan, Iain Hesford and supporting cast get into a tangle in front of the Blackpool goal.

BOTTOM RIGHT:
Frank Corrigan slides for the second goal against Blackpool, with Iain Hesford again looking helplessly on.

Springfield Spotlight

PLAY ACTION



Photos by courtesy of the Wigan Observer

NEW AND REBUILT

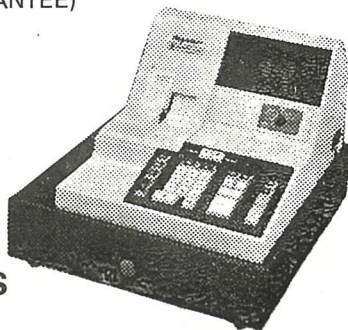
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Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

RECENTLY the Latics' Youth Team has been in the spotlight, and the emergence of some of the players on whom the Latics' are basing their hopes for the future, makes it a point of interest to note that Wigan had another excellent youth side at Springfield Park not long ago.

One of former manager Brian Tiler's first jobs after taking over from Les Rigby was to ensure that the young side Rigby had built up did not disintegrate.

On the contrary the side went from strength to strength, winning the Lancashire Youth Cup and having a tremendous run in the FA Youth Cup competition.

Latics were taking a lesson from their seniors and provided a few shocks in knocking out higher grade teams in the Youth Cup, before they themselves were put out of the 1973-74 competition by First Division Wolves at Molyneux, after a draw at Springfield Park.

The first clash took place on December 8th, 1973, in front of a large Springfield Park crowd. Included in the Latics line up were several future first team players, including big Eric Makin. Despite some fierce Latics pressure, the match ended in a goal-less draw, with a Wigan player missing an absolute sitter in the final minutes.

A feature of the game was the strength of the Wolves outfit, with no fewer than six full-time professionals in their side, they were a formidable outfit and it was obvious from their play that the Wolves youngsters had already acquired many of the skills and idiosyncrasies of the experienced professional.

The second match at Molyneux was totally different, a fast open game ended with Latics going down 3 - 2, but in defeat the local boys earned glowing praise from the officials of the Wolves club.

LATICS AWAY

At Tranmere Rovers, Monday, 3rd December, 1979 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Use Birkenhead Tunnel, follow signs for Heswall, dropping down into Borough Road and continue through lights into Prenton Road for Tranmere Rovers F.C.

At Walsall, Saturday, 8th December, 1979 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Use Motorway M6 until junction 9, leave motorway and follow signs Walsall A461, then turn right A4148 into Broadway West for Walsall Football Club, Fellows Park.

Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.
† Player substituted.

² Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F	A	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1	2	6,004	R Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ¹	Brownbill	Purdie	Urquhart
Aug 11	STOCKPORT FLC1	0	0	7,591	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdie	Moore
Aug 18	Darlington	2	2	2,063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan ¹	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie	Davids
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD	1	2	6,927	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore ¹	Purdie	Brownbill
Aug 25	Stockport County	2	1	3,837	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore ¹	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ¹	Moore	Purdie	N Ward
Sep 1	PORTSMOUTH	1	2	8,198	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore ¹	Purdie	Urquhart
Sep 8	Bournemouth	2	1	4,390	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Hart	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie	Brownbill ²
Sep 15	YORK CITY	2	5	5,990	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan ¹	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart ¹
Sep 19	HARTLEPOOL	2	1	4,877	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton ¹	Purdie
Sep 22	Hereford United	1	2	3,891	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Purdie	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright ¹	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY	4	1	8,009	Shyne	Gore ¹	Hinnigan ¹	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore ¹	Houghton ¹	Crompton
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED	0	3	6,541	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Crompton
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town	0	4	7,871	Brown	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Methven
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers	1	3	4,169	Brown	Macdonald ¹	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY	2	1	5,454	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ¹	Moore	Urquhart	A Quinn
Oct 24	ROCHDALE	1	1	5,036	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn ¹	Urquhart	Smart
Oct 27	Newport County	2	3	4,910	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven ¹	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Buckley	A Quinn ¹	Urquhart	Buckley
Nov 3	DARLINGTON	4	1	5,001	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan ¹	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn ¹	Urquhart	Buckley
Nov 6	Rochdale	2	0	2,936	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ¹	A Quinn ¹	Urquhart	Brownbill
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE	4	1	4,618	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan ¹	Gore ¹	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn ¹	Urquhart ¹	Moore
Nov 24	Blackpool F.A.C.1	1	1	11,277	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven ¹	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Nov 29	BLACKPOOL FAC1R	2	0	14,589	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore ¹	Methven	Davids	Corrigan ¹	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON															
Dec 3	Tranmere Rovers															
Dec 8	Walsall															
Dec 15	NORTHWICH FAC2															
Dec 21	CREWE															
Dec 26	Peterborough															
Dec 26	STOCKPORT															
Dec 29	PORT VALE															
Jan 1	Halifax Town															
Jan 5	Portsmouth															
Jan 12	Portsmouth															
Jan 19	BOURNEMOUTH															
Jan 19	ALDERSHOT															
Jan 26	York City															
Feb 2	HEREFORD UNITED															
Feb 9	Bradford City															
Feb 23	DONCASTER															
Feb 29	Lincoln City															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 4 — TABLE AS AT 28th NOVEMBER, 1979

Football League Division	Home Goals					Away Goals					Pts.	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F		A
Lludersfield Town	20	7	2	1	30	8	6	2	2	18	12	30
Portsmouth	20	9	0	1	33	10	5	1	4	17	16	29
Bradford City	20	7	3	0	24	5	5	1	4	15	18	28
Walsall	20	6	4	0	17	8	4	4	2	17	13	28
Leopold County	20	7	2	1	22	13	5	0	5	20	14	26
Orkney United	20	8	2	0	26	8	1	6	3	14	17	26
Doncaster Rovers	20	7	1	2	20	14	3	4	3	10	9	25
Widneshot	18	8	0	2	20	6	2	2	4	8	11	22
Lincoln City	19	5	3	1	17	5	3	2	5	10	17	21
Wrexham Borough United	20	6	0	4	18	14	3	2	5	6	11	20
Halifax Town	20	6	3	1	12	6	1	3	6	7	17	20
Loughmounth	20	3	3	4	14	13	2	5	3	14	13	18
Wigan Athletic	18	5	1	4	21	18	3	1	4	12	16	18
Ramblers Rovers	19	4	1	4	13	12	3	3	4	8	13	18
Hereford United	20	5	3	2	12	7	1	2	7	8	19	17
Northampton Town	20	7	1	2	17	10	0	2	8	8	26	17
Hartlepool United	19	6	1	2	18	12	1	1	8	9	17	16
York City	20	4	3	3	17	16	2	1	7	17	29	16
Stockport County	20	2	4	4	8	16	3	2	5	9	17	16
Barlington	20	4	5	1	16	10	0	2	8	7	25	15
Port Vale	20	4	1	5	17	9	1	3	6	8	19	14
Scunthorpe United	20	3	5	2	18	13	1	0	9	7	30	13
Rochdale	19	2	3	4	8	12	0	3	7	8	24	10
Crew Alexandra	20	3	2	5	11	15	0	1	9	3	26	9

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Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



WITH THE halfway stage of the season just around the corner, there have been one or two significant changes in the managerial stakes recently.

In a lightning move, Doug Collins, the man who performed a trick Houdini would have been proud of in saving Rochdale from having to apply for re-election last season, was ousted and Bob Stokoe brought in.

Near neighbours Stockport went into the Third Division to acquire their new boss, Jimmy McGuigan, former Rotherham United manager. Jimmy got a rude awakening when his team lost their first game under his charge 0 - 5 at home to Newport.

With one of the worst defensive records in the Fourth Division, York City have been trying to strengthen their squad, but attempts to bring Leeds United star Peter Hampton and Barnsley's Alan Little to Bootham Crescent have failed.

On a statistical note Crewe Alexandra, bundled out of the FA Cup by non-league Altrincham, have failed to score more than two goals in any game this term and failed to score at all in ten matches.

Meanwhile, Stockport County have one of

the worst disciplinary records in the division. To date they have totted up no less than twenty-six bookings, making Wigan's fifteen look rather tame.

High-flying Portsmouth seem intent on buying cover in every position in order to safeguard against injuries when the promotion going hots up around Easter time.

They recently swooped for Plymouth's Steven Perrin, a striker, and are in the throes of making a revised offer for Bury's talented forward David Gregory.

After making one of their best starts to a season for many years Halifax Town are in the middle of a slump — and it's taking its toll at the turnstiles. After they beat Walsall late last month things were looking up, but twenty-one days later 1,400 had been lopped off that gate figure, as the attendance for the Port Vale game tumbled to 1,800.

It is very interesting to see several Division Four clashes in the next round of the FA Cup. Hereford United play host to Aldershot, Bradford City visit Darlington, Walsall meet Halifax Town and Tranmere Rovers, who scored nine goals in their First Round victory, meet lowly Rochdale.

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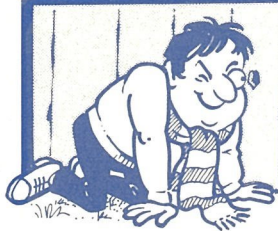
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Inside Information

by I. Spy

THERE IS no truth in the rumour that Commercial Manager, Jack Sudworth, is so intoxicated with life on the Market Square that he is considering dressing up as Father Christmas, prior to walking about Wigan ringing a bell and shouting "Tickets for sale!" It is equally untrue that Pickfords, having noted Jack's feats of strength in heaving lottery kiosks about, have offered him a job on their removal vans. It is probably just as well because the big man has a habit of losing his legs at vital moments, not to mention mowing down unsuspecting passers-by as he does a quick fandango in and out of the fruit market. Jack showed his real talent for improvisation this week, however, when confronted with a bolt which would not penetrate the hole provided for the purpose. Picking up a house-brick which happened to be nearby, the harassed Commercial Manager applied a few sharp blows to the bolt-head and, before the amazed eyes of Ashton-in-Makerfield shoppers, one new fully-operational lottery kiosk took root in Bryn Street. Definitely a touch of

delicacy in the mailed fist!!!!

Back from a well-earned holiday in Tunisia this week is the effervescent Jack Day. Although not noted for his consideration to dumb animals, Jack is reputed to have caused a local sensation by offering to hump concrete slabs and produce a new pyramid-like construction. The Arabian reply to Jack's offer loses something in the translation into English, but can be interpreted as "Push off you Lancastrian hod-carrier!!" Jack duly pushed off and arrived back in Wigan sun-tanned and full of ideas. Unfortunately, groundstaff Tommy Hidden and Tony Broxson are catching the full brunt of Pharoah Day's ingenuity, running backwards and forwards to Mansfield Motors for liquid refreshment for the mechanical camels, while Walter Kennedy follows behind with the shovel to make sure that the final job is good and clean. Heaven knows what will happen if Jack ever decides to take a holiday in the U.S.A., although he reckons he has met a few cowboys in his working life.

WELCOME once again to Springfield Park to all our friends and supporters on the first Saturday in December, and the start of the "run-up" to Christmas.

You may not have heard the result of the sportsman's quiz, but I am delighted to say that Mick Moss and his men, representing the Latics, beat Salford R.L.F.C. 50 points to 28 in the semi-final last Monday evening at Kearsley Cricket Club, and so meet Leigh Cricket Club in the final also at Kearsley on Monday, 10th December.

Once again (as in the quarter-finals at the Latics) it was a great evening's entertainment, and the speed and accuracy of the answers to the questions is simply amazing. Perhaps we would have wished a few more supporters could have come along to give support, but don't forget, if you can't make the final of the Radio Manchester Quiz, that the Second Leg of the First Round of the Supporters Clubs' Federation Contest is at the Latics Club, v Rochdale A.F.C., on 7th January, 1980. Make a note of that date and come along.

Tonight, on stage at the club, we present Alan Young, and, tomorrow (Sunday), Eddie Windsor. Next weekend —

Saturday, 8th Dec. — John Paul Junior

Sunday, 9th Dec. — Coffee Pot

Remember too that every Sunday night we have our member's cash draw — if you are in,

Supporters Club News



you could win!!! That is the only rule, a member must be in the club when his or her number is drawn out. So far four members have been the lucky ones.

Early in the New Year we intend to hold another darts and dominoes handicap, but more details of that later.

Don't forget, there must be something in our programme that you would enjoy.

Why not spend an evening with us?

Sincerely,

Peter Woods



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A last word from the chairman . . .

ON BEHALF of the Wigan Athletic Football Club I am delighted to welcome the Chairman, Directors, Staff and Supporters of the Northampton Town Football Club to Springfield Park. Last year's games between our two clubs produced good attacking football and eight goals, and we hope that today's game will be equally open and attractive to watch.

The last seven days have certainly been highlighted by the two magnificent performances produced by our first team against Blackpool. Over twenty-five thousand people attended the two games, and our attendance figure of 14,589 last Wednesday evening was our best since we joined the Football League and the gate receipts approaching £17,000 were an all-time record for the Wigan Athletic Football Club.

What is even more satisfying is that our success was fully deserved and we appreciated the way in which Blackpool acknowledged the fact and the sporting way in which they took what must have been, for them, a bitter pill to swallow.

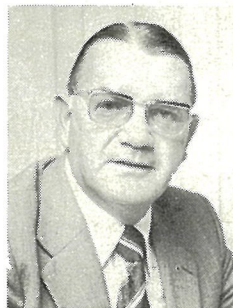
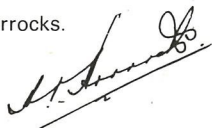
These are my last notes to appear before our Second Round game at Northwich on Saturday, 15th December, and I am sure that our faithful following would wish me to express the good wishes of all concerned to Ian McNeill and his players for what will be a reversal of roles from previous days, with Wigan Athletic as a league side being confronted by an eager and ambitious non-league club. I am sure that, if our boys show the same spirit and character at Drill Field as was evident at Bloomfield Road, we have every chance of entering the Third Round of the F.A. Cup and, who knows, perhaps a game against Arsenal, the F.A. Cup holders.

I would like to apologise to those spectators who found it difficult to gain access to the ground on Wednesday and, in particular, those parents who were separated from their children for a lengthy period of time. I can assure you that the question of security and crowd control is constantly being examined by both the club and the police. There are certainly lessons to be learned from the cup ties, but what a difference turnstiles on the St. Andrew's Drive side of the ground would have made!!

Many thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

A. O. Horrocks.



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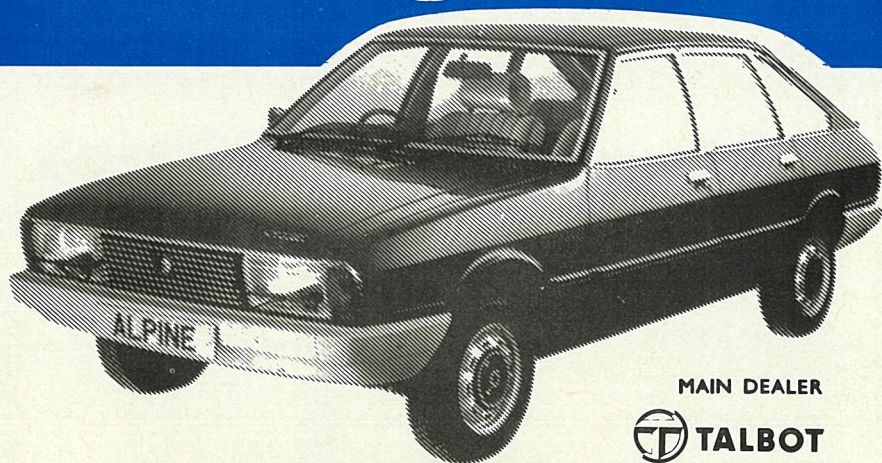
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Teams

Wigan Athletic Royal Blue & White Stripes		Northampton Town White, Claret Trim
John Brown	1	Andy Poole
Dave Fretwell	2	Ricky Walker
Joe Hinnigan	3	Phil Sandercock
Tommy Gore	4	Dennis Byatt
Colin Methven	5	Des Waldock
Neil Davids	6	John Farrington
Frank Corrigan	7	Peter Denyer
Jeff Wright	8	Gary Sargent
Peter Houghton	9	Kevin Farmer
Tony Quinn	10	Jim McCaffrey
George Urquhart	11	Mike O'Donohue
Micky Moore	12	Paul Saunders

Officials

Referee:
Mr. Michael G. Peck
(Doncaster)

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Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. A. Robinson
(Radcliffe)
Yellow Flag
Mr. D. Tweats
(Poulton-le-Fylde)

Here next...

Friday, 21st December, 1979. Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v CREWE ALEXANDRA
Football League Division Four